

Carreta de Bueyes

Costa Ricans take great pride in their decorative ox carts. Long ago they were simply a main form of transportation for the Ticos. They continue to be a form of transport in the rural areas of the country, but for many years it has been tradition to paint the carts with designs that are unique to each family. The designs are handed down from generation to generation, much like a coat of arms! You can make your own replica of these carts. Create your own designs for them, or your own "coat of arms" for your family or your class.

Materiales:

- * small boxes
- * cardboard
- * white glue
- * brass fasteners (paper fasteners, probably available in school supplies)
- * pencils
- * red, blue, black, green, yellow tempera paint
- * paintbrushes
- * scissors

(Feel free to substitute markers , water colors or crayons for the paint to avoid the mess!)

- * For each cart, cut eight cardboard posts to glue to the outside of a box.
- * Cut a tongue for each cart from cardboard. Fasten the tongue to the bottom of the box with a brass fastener.
- * Cut four circles from cardboard for the wheels. Glue the circles together in pairs to make the wheels strong. Place a heavy book on top of the glued wheels to keep them flat while they dry.
- * Cut little holes in the center of the wheels and in the sides of the cart where the wheels will be attached.
- * Push a pencil through the holes in the cart for an axle and then slide the wheels on.
- * Make hubcaps from paper-mâché or heavy cardboard.
- * Cut a seat for the cart from cardboard. Bend the ends and glue in place.
- * Paint beautiful designs on the finished carts.

